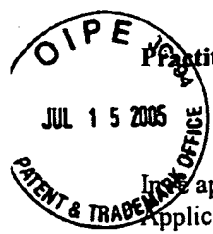


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Patitioner's Docket No. U 013711-6

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor application of: **Hiroyuki ONISHI, et al.**

Application No.: **10/009,884**

Group No.: **1746**

Filed: **November 13, 2001**

Examiner: **W.P. Fletcher, III**

For: **METHOD FOR SURFACE -TREATMENT, SURFACE-TREATED ARTICLE  
AND DEVICE FOR SURFACE TREATMENT**

**Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
BEFORE MAILING DATE OF EITHER A FINAL ACTION  
OR NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE (37 C.F.R. 1.97(c))**

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. 1.97: "(c) An information disclosure statement shall be considered by the Office if filed after the period specified in paragraph (b) of this section, provided that the information disclosure statement is filed before the mailing date of any of a final action under § 1.113, a notice of allowance under § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and it is accompanied by one of:

- (1) The statement specified in paragraph (e) of this section; or
- (2) The fee set forth in § 1.17(p)."

**NOTE:** "If a final action or notice of allowance is mailed in an application and later withdrawn, the application will be considered as not having had a final action or notice of allowance mailed for purposes of considering an information disclosure statement." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).

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\* Only the date of filing (§ 1.6) will be the date used in a patent term adjustment calculation, although the date on any certificate of mailing or transmission under § 1.8 continues to be taken into account in determining timeliness. See § 1.703(f). Consider "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" (§ 1.10) or facsimile transmission (§ 1.6(d)) for the reply to be accorded the earliest possible filing date for patent term adjustment calculations.

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